# Pierce Conservation District

### Other Accomplishments

Purchased five tons of local produce, which was donated to local low income seniors and disabled.

Helped form the Puget Sound Meat Producers Cooperative, and issued RFP for mobile meat processing unit.

Assisted farmers markets in Tacoma, Puyallup and Gig Harbor in marketing local produce.

Trained 166 local livestock owners at eight farm workshops throughout District.

Helped form the Pierce County Community Foods Network, a coalition of individuals and organizations aimed at influencing local food policy.

Completed Pierce County Agricultural Capacity Study, identifying remaining productive farmland in District.

Purchased \$20,000 worth of food vouchers to use at farmers markets for seniors.

## 2008 Feature Accomplishment

#### South Prairie Creek Preserve

#### Resource Challenge

During 2008, the District and its partners worked hard to continue restoration and preservation efforts along South Prairie Creek, the Puyallup River's most productive salmon spawning stream for Coho, Chinook and Steelhead Trout. The ultimate plan is to create a fully protected stream corridor from the Town of South Prairie to the confluence with the Carbon River, a distance of six river miles.



Eight acres reforested

#### Project Summary and Results

Volunteers and work crews from BankSavers (Snohomish County) planted approximately eight acres of pasture with riparian forest species. Blackberry and Japanese knotweed were removed from riparian areas by District personnel.

A plan for creation of a wet prairie on District property was written by local native prairie experts, and water quality improvement was documented by a volunteer water quality monitoring team, with results informing Ecology's TMDL process.

An additional eight acres were purchased by Pierce County and added to the Preserve, making a total of approximately 254 acres preserved either in fee simple or development right transfer to date.

#### Key Project Partners

Cascade Land Conservancy, Earth Corps, Foothills Rails to Trails Coalition, Muckleshoot Tribe, Pierce County Transportation, Pierce County Water Programs, Puyallup River Watershed Council, Puyallup Tribe, WA State Dept. of Ecology, Washington Conservation Corps

#### **Contact Information**

Monty Mahan, Director P.O. Box 1057 Puyallup, WA 98371 (253) 845-9770 http://www.piercecountycd.org/

Board of Supervisors: Ernie Bay, Chair Anders Ibsen, Vice Chair Dave Seabrook, Auditor Rose Ehart, Member Janice Bryant, Member

#### More Work To Do

- Begin study of Pierce County Local Foods Market.
- Purchase USDA approved mobile meat processing van.
- Close out RCO Grants for 120 acre preservation/enhancement work along South Prairie Creek.
- Renew \$5 Assessment with Pierce County Council.
- Refine local election process.